



## March 2018 NEWSLETTER

### DEMOCRATIC WOMEN MADE TEXAS HISTORY IN 2018 PRIMARIES

#### President's Letter



Thank you to all who gave of their time to run in the Democratic Primary. And congratulations to the Democrats who will appear on the November ballot. You are all winners for giving of yourselves to improve what's going in our local, state, and federal government.

On February 14, 2018, the worst high school shooting in US history took place in Florida. 14 students and 3 adults were killed by a former student wielding an assault-style rifle. Out of the horror has emerged a whole new respect for the youth of this country. It seems their maturity level has outgrown the adults in our local, state and federal government. They are determined to change what we have not been able to do and that is to change the laws pertaining to guns. It seems our youth treasure life more than our elected officials do. To help save the lives of our youth, we MUST VOTE in November. It is so important that the Democrats of this state VOTE to put back the love and respect our children so deserve. "Enough Is Enough" and "Never Again" are what our youth are shouting, and we should be working every day to help make this happen.

Let's all work hard to turn our state blue and show our youth that hard work and not giving up does work.

VOTE AND WORK TO SUPPORT OUR DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES IN NOVEMBER!

Your President,  
Cindy James



#### TDW 2018-19 EXECUTIVE BOARD

**President:** Cindy James - Tarrant County

**President-Elect:** Maria Regalado - Rio Grande Valley

**Vice President:** Sue Barrick - South Plains

**Secretary:** Mary Ho - Bell County

**Treasurer:** Kenna Giffiin - Rio Grande Valley

#### At-Large Board Members:

- Sharon Davis - Anderson County
- Barbara Gardner - Harris Co. Metro Area
- Glenda Turner - Coastal Bend

#### Immediate Past President:

Carol Jablonski - North Dallas

#### TDW ADVISORY BOARD

##### (Past Presidents)

Jeanie Stanley, Ph.D

Mae J. Jackson, Ph.D (deceased)

Jo Ann Jenkins

Karen Matkin

Cristy Keul

Molly Beth Malcolm, Ed.D

Nettie Ruth Bratton

Sharon Teal

Roberta McMurtry Hicks (deceased)

Betty Richie

Kellie Bailey

Alieca Hux

Marcia Mainord

Gloria Caceres

Susie Blackmon

Joanna Reagan

Rosie Mimms

Donna Beth McCormick

Tammie Hartgroves

Laura Allen

Susan Shelton

Carol Jablonski

---

## 2018 Texas Democratic Primary

In all of the excitement about record high voter turnout in the Texas Democratic Party Primary this year, one additional fact stands out - this has been a banner year for Democratic women running for office and winning their primary contests! According to the [Texas Tribune](#), more than 50 primary races across the state were decided in favor of women who either won the nomination they were seeking outright or made it into runoffs, and most of them are Democrats. Not only that, according to the [Brookings Institute](#), there is also a surge in the number of self-identified progressive candidates. So there is plenty of reason to be optimistic, but no time to be complacent. November will be here before we know it!

---

### Attend the Next TDW Board Meeting or Join the Monthly Conference Call

The next face-to-face meeting of the TDW Executive Board will be on Friday, April 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Austin Wyndham Hotel, 3401 S IH-35. We will meet in one of the hotel restaurant private rooms. TDW members are always welcome to attend TDW Board meetings, and to join our monthly board conference calls at 7:30 p.m. on the last Sunday of the month. The next call is scheduled for March 29. Please [contact President Cindy James](#) to receive conference call details.



---

### Websites for TDW Chapters

TDW provides our local chapters the opportunity to have a website and set-up assistance free of charge. Several chapters are already taking advantage of this terrific offer. For more information about getting started on your chapter's free website please contact [VP Sue Barrick](#).

### County/Senatorial District Conventions

It not too late to [pre-register](#) for your County or Senatorial District Convention if you do it TODAY.

And it isn't too soon to start planning to attend the Texas Democratic Party Convention in Fort Worth, June 21-23.

---



### NEWS FROM LOCAL CHAPTERS

Below are articles from local chapters telling about what's happening in their "neck of the woods."

---

### Tarrant County Democratic Woman's Club



We've been busy here in Tarrant County this new year!

January was an exciting month for us. We participated in the MLK Day Parade in Fort Worth.

January 20, we sponsored the Women's March of Fort Worth. About 8,000 of our closest friends attended!

That night, several members attended the Tarrant County Stonewall Democrats Hollywood themed fundraiser. What a hoot! Speaking of hoots – we attended another Stonewall event where Kim Olson was the featured speaker. She was as inspiring as always!

The fun continued in February as a large contingent of us (38 to be exact!) attended the TDW Convention. We had a blast and really enjoyed getting to meet other TDW members. It was also a great thrill to see our own Cindy James become 2018 TDW President.

Back at home, our February Program featured two SDEC Chairpersons, Libby Willis and M. Emad Salem. They spoke to us about the next step after voting in the primary – attending the Senate District Convention. Lots of great information on how to be active in the Senate and State conventions!

TCDWC sponsored a table at the Tarrant County Democratic Party Blue Wave Ball! also on February 17. Proceeds from this fundraiser help finance the upcoming Senate District Convention.

February 19 was a red-letter day for us. TCDWC hosted a debate with our two Democratic SD10 candidates, Allison Campolo and Beverly Powell. It was very well attended. Both candidates are amazing.

Also, in February, we attended a Texas Latina List meeting. So many great candidates running for office! Looking forward to working together with them to Turn Tarrant Blue!

TCDWC Membership Committee hosted our first membership drive for 2018. It was a smashing success and we are planning another one soon.

Our March meeting featured none other than Mike Collier! Tarrant County Democratic Woman's Club was his first appearance after winning the primary election for Lt. Governor!! He was fantastic!

More adventures to come! Stay tuned.

---

## North Dallas TDW

### About those Guns! February Program **Getting Guns Out of the Hands of Domestic Abusers**

At the February meeting of NDTDW, Moms Demand Action presented a program detailing the gun problem, what can realistically be done about it, and steps that we as citizens can take right now.

The Domestic Violence Offender Gun Ban, often called "the Lautenberg Amendment" ("Gun Ban for Individuals Convicted of a Misdemeanor Crime of Domestic Violence"), is an amendment to the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1997, enacted by the 104th United States Congress in 1996, which bans access to firearms by people convicted of crimes of domestic violence. This federal law is on the books now and has been for twenty-two years but is not being enforced in most places in the United States, let alone Dallas.

Judge Roberto Cañas, who hears only cases related to domestic abuse, is one of the very few Judges in Dallas who actively moves to remove guns from persons convicted of domestic violence in his courtroom. Take a minute to watch this video which spotlights the issue.

<http://dfw.cbslocal.com/2018/02/19/gun-law-texas-abusers/>.

As the video points out, there is nothing in Texas law requiring Judges to ask whether a person owns a gun after being convicted. And there is nothing that compels that person to answer truthfully. However, Judge Cañas explained what he does:

First, he directly asks the person if he owns any guns. If they reply that they do not, he then looks them straight in the eye and says, "Are you stating for the record that you do not own any guns?"

He goes on to warn them of the consequences if they are not telling the truth and are found to have guns in their possession. Those consequences can include being found in contempt of court; revoking bail; revoking probation and being sent back to jail; having additional charges filed against them by the DA's office; or having a U.S. Attorney act since this is a Federal law. Once faced with the consequences, most decide to tell the truth and the judge then enters an order whereby the convicted person has a short period of time to surrender their gun(s) to the Sheriff's department and present a receipt from the Sheriff to the judge to prove they have complied with the order.

To date, Judge Cañas has never had someone to whom he has issued such an order not comply. So, what is the problem? Most judges do not ask or do so in a manner that does not elicit a truthful response. To overcome this obstacle Moms Demand Action has a program lead by Roz Katz, [rozkatz723@gmail.com](mailto:rozkatz723@gmail.com), where volunteers sit in courtrooms and monitor how judges approach this issue. Monitors are given a questionnaire to record information which will be used to persuade Dallas County Commissioners to fund the Gun Surrender Program. This is the same way Mothers Against Drunk Drivers has been so effective - pressuring judges!

Here are links where you can find out more:

<https://www.facebook.com/MomsDemandActionTX/>

Educators Demand Action:

<https://momsdemandaction.org/campaigns/educators/>

Students Demand Action:

<http://act.everytown.org/sign/join-students-demand-action>

Information on our Be SMART for Kids program:

<http://besmartforkids.org/>

Texas state gun laws:

<http://lawcenter.giffords.org/gun-laws/state-law/texas/>

Download "Don't Gut Our Gun Laws" postcard to send to law makers to oppose Concealed Carry Reciprocity:  
<http://every.tw/2orVQ6q>

## NORTH DALLAS TEXAS DEMOCRATIC WOMEN



## TDW of the South Plains

### Trump's Tax "Plan"

TDW South Plains heard from Dr. Robert Ricketts, Frank M. Burke Chair in Taxation and head of the Department of Accounting at Texas Tech's Rawls College of Business on February 23rd. Dr. Ricketts, a perennial TDW South Plains favorite, was the Democratic candidate for Congress in Texas' 19th District in 2006.

He described Trump's tax "plan" as a gift to big corporations, and the wealthy who are its only long-term beneficiaries, as an ongoing headache for legislators who will need to pass fixes to overcome its deficiencies, as a burden on state and local governments who will have to make up for reduced federal funding, and (in jest) as job security for accounting graduates for years to come. He took listeners through the ways families with young children will be shortchanged by the new policy, and the ways corporations with overseas assets are likely to manage the legislation's intent. The implications of the hastily written bill, passed without committee oversight, will take a long time to become clear. But trickle down economics has never worked, and we can hope that voters energized by Trump's excesses will let Republicans know we are all onto them this time.

Photo: Dr. Robert Ricketts addresses TDW South Plains program meeting at Furr's Fresh Buffet in Lubbock, Feb. 23, 2018.



## TDWHarris

TDWHarris hosted a Democratic Candidates Forum for the 29th US Congressional District on Feb. 26th, 2018. The forum was well attended and reported by the Univision TV station. In keeping with the mission of TDW, the female candidate, State Senator Sylvia Garcia, won the primary race!



Visit [TDW.ORG](http://TDW.ORG)

Send your articles and photos to [VicePresident@TDW.org](mailto:VicePresident@TDW.org) - we want to promote you!

